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Down Syndrome Forum of S.A.

Fund Raising No. 08 800619 000 8

Down-Sindroom Forum van S.A.

Fondsinsameringnommer 08 800619 000 8



"Together We Will Cope"

"Saam Sien Ons Kans"

FACSIMILE.

TO: for attention MELODIE EMMETT

FAX NO: 397 2211

FROM: DOWN SYNDROME FORUM OF SOUTH AFRICA

FAX NO: (011) 646 8652

NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS ONE - 2

If there is a problem with this message, please phone
(011) 646 8652.

Message.

Please would you be so kind as to deliver this to the relevant person. A copy of the letter has been sent by post.

Many thanks.

Jean Drew.

Down Syndrome Forum of S.A.

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Fondelnsamerlingnommer 08 800619 000 8



"Saam Sien Ons Kans"

"Together We Will Cope"

29th October 1993

The Secretariat
The Technical Committee for
Fundamental Human Rights
World Trade Centre
Kempton Park

Dear Sirs.

As a National Body representing persons with Down Syndrome and their families, the Down Syndrome Forum was closely involved with the movement to have a Charter of Rights for the Mentally Handicapped as an addendum to the Bill of Human Rights. We now realise that in spite of all our efforts, it appears that the Bill of Human Rights, as presently proposed, will be recommended and there will be no place for a Charter for any particular group such as the Mentally Handicapped.

We understand that a commission to monitor fundamental Human Rights has been recommended to the World Trade Centre with maybe thirteen commissioners to be appointed. We therefore call on the Human Rights Committee, as a matter of urgency, to ensure that when the commission is appointed, one of the commissioners should be a person who understands the particular problems of persons with a Mental Handicap.

We cannot emphasise too strongly, that because of the nature of their disability, the Mentally Handicapped are unable to speak for themselves and therefore need someone who could act as an advocate for and on behalf of these persons.

We would further suggest that a representative body, such as Reef Forum, be asked to explain our cause to the Human Rights Committee.

We implore you to take note of this appeal.

Yours sincerely,

Jean Drew

(Mrs) Jean Drew, Chairperson.
Down Syndrome Forum of South Africa.